Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A cosmetic preparation comprising:

a.) water soluble β-(1,3) glucan with ~~naturally intact~~ β-(1,3) side chains; ~~where the side chains comprise β-(1,3) linkages or 0-4 consecutive β-(1,6) linkages,~~ and

b.) chitosans

12. (currently amended) The preparation of claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 50,000 to 500,000 Daltons.

13. (currently amended) The preparation of claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 800,00 to 1,200,000 Daltons.

14. (currently amended) The preparation of claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein said preparation comprises carboxylated chitosans.

15. (currently amended) The preparation of claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein said preparation comprises succinilated chitosans.

16. (currently amended) The preparation of claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein said preparation comprises

a.) 0.01 to 25% by weight of said β-(1,3) glucans, and

b.) 0.01 to 5% by weight of chitosans,

provided that the stated amounts are supplemented with water as well as optionally other auxiliaries and additional agents up to 100% by weight.

17. (currently amended) A method of treating aging of the skin on a patient in need thereof comprising :

a.) water soluble β-(1,3) glucan with ~~naturally intact~~ β-(1,3) side chains; ~~where the side chains comprise β-(1,3) linkages or 0-4 consecutive β-(1,6) linkages,~~ and

b.) chitosans

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 50,000 to 500,000 Daltons.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 800,000 to 1,200,000 Daltons.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said method comprises carboxylated chitosans.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said method comprises succinilated chitosans.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said method comprises

a.) 0.01 to 25% by weight of said β-(1,3) glucans, and

b.) 0.01 to 5% by weight of chitosans,

provided that the stated amounts are supplemented with water as well as optionally other auxiliaries and additional agents up to 100% by weight.

23. (currently amended) A method of treating rough skin on a patient in need thereof, comprising applying to the skin a composition comprising:

a.) water soluble β-(1,3) glucan with ~~naturally intact~~ β-(1,3) side chains; ~~where the side chains comprise β-(1,3) linkages or 0-4 consecutive β-(1,6) linkages,~~ and

b.) chitosans

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 50,000 to 500,000 Daltons.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 800,000 to 1,200,000 Daltons.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said method comprises carboxylated chitosans.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said method comprises succinilated chitosans.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said method comprises

a.) 0.01 to 25% by weight of said β-(1,3) glucans, and

b.) 0.01 to 5% by weight of chitosans,

provided that the stated amounts are supplemented with water as well as optionally other auxiliaries and additional agents up to 100% by weight.

29. (new) The cosmetic preparation of claim 11 wherein all side chains exclusively consist of β-(1,3) glucans.

30. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein all the side chains of the water soluble β-(1,3) glucan exclusively consist of β-(1,3) glucans.

31. (new) The method according to claim 23 wherein all the side chains of the water soluble β-(1,3) glucan exclusively consist of β-(1,3) glucans.

32. (new) The cosmetic preparation of claim 11 wherein the composition has improved film forming properties.

33. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein the preparation has improved film-forming properties.

34. (new) The method of claim 23 wherein the composition has improved film-forming properties.